

**CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 10, 2005**

At 5:10 p.m. Chairman Lee Panza called the meeting to order in the Fourth Floor Dining Room at the San Mateo Transit District Office.

Members Attending: Chairman Lee Panza, Vice-Chair Sue Lempert, Deborah Gordon, Marc Hershman, Irene O'Connell, Joe Silva, Marland Townsend, Jim Vreeland, and Deborah Wilder.

Staff/ Guests Attending: Mary McMillan (County Manager's Office), David Burruto (Speaker Pro Tem Leland Yee's Office), Richard Napier (C/CAG Executive Director), Brian Moura (City of San Carlos), Walter Martone (C/CAG Staff), Rosalie O'Mahony (C/CAG Member - Burlingame), Jessica Stanfill (Assemblyman Mullin's Office), and Inge Tiegel Doherty (Mayor of San Carlos).

1. Public comment on items not on the agenda.

Mayor Doherty (San Carlos) reported that the Housing Endowment and Trust (HEART) Program is anxious to work together with C/CAG on legislative issues that are of mutual interest.

Mary McMillan (County Manager's Office) reported that the Board of Supervisors has adopted its 2005 Legislative Program. She will keep C/CAG informed of the positions that the Board takes on specific bills that may be of interest to C/CAG. At the Federal level, the Board is very concerned about the fact that California continues to be a tax donor state, with over \$50 billion of California tax dollars being sent to other states.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of January 13, 2004.

*Motion: To approve the minutes of January 13, 2005 as presented.
O'Connell/Lempert, unanimous.*

3. Update from C/CAG's Lobbyist in Sacramento (via conference call).

Wes Lujan reported:

It is generally accepted that the Governor will call a special session of the Legislature.

The Governor is expected to push for ballot issues if the Legislature does not address his most important issues (redistricting and pension reform).

There will likely be a large number of bills introduced this session relating to local government.

There are over 50 State Boards and Commissions that will likely be eliminated or reinstated with sunsets.

So far there are 73 Initiatives that have been filed. One of these has been proposed by the business community to require a vote of two-thirds of the Legislature to reject any reorganization plan submitted by the Governor. Currently it only takes 50% to reject such a plan.

The High Speed Rail Bond will be once again postponed.

A number of other bonds are expected to be proposed including a new resource bond. Much more information about these proposals will be known in August. Advocation has held a number of meetings with the Administration and various Legislators to push for Proposition 218 reform to allow an exclusion for stormwater pollution prevention programs. The strategy that is being used is to tie this reform together with flood control reform. The Governor's Office is very interested in the flood control reform issue in light of the recent \$800 million flood control lawsuit that the State recently lost.

Another Initiative being proposed is being referred to as the Paycheck Protection Initiative. It will allow individuals to opt out of union membership and paying dues.

Senators Torlakson and Lowenthal are the key Legislators who will be dealing with land use and housing issues in this session of the Legislature.

The study to restore the Hetch-Hetchy valley and remove the dam is gaining momentum.

Assemblyman Nation has indicated that he will introduce a bill to lower the voting requirement for special taxes. It is unlikely that it will go very far unless the Governor gets behind it. The Governor is still being firm about no new taxes. He appears to be more flexible on the idea of new fees.

Assemblyman Richman has introduced legislation dealing with the Governor's idea to eliminate the defined benefit pension program and replace it with a defined contribution program.

4. Review and approval of a position supporting the protection of water resources for the Bay Area.

Staff recommended that this item be held until after the presentation to the C/CAG Board by Art Jensen, Executive Director of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA).

5. Review and approval of the C/CAG Board State Legislative Priorities for the 2005 State Legislative Session.

The discussion on this item included the following comments:

Objective number 1 – It was noted that Best Management Practices (BPMs) are only one tool and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) could also be used as a tool. However there was consensus that requiring TMDL measures would not be appropriate at this time.

Objective number 7 – This item will be discussed further after the survey results are tabulated from the local jurisdictions.

Objective number 9 – The second bullet was revised to read “Coordinate with BAWSCA and support efforts to provide a reliable supply of quality water at a fair price.”

Motion: To approve the C/CAG Board State Legislative Priorities for the 2005 State Legislative Session as amended. Lempert/O’Connell, unanimous.

6. Establish date and time for next meeting (February 10, 2005).

The next meeting was set for March 10, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. in the Fourth Floor Dining Room at the San Mateo County Transit District Office.

7. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.